



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/49/36
10 December 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 107 and 37 (e)

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER
RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR
PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/49/L.45

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution A/49/L.45, the General Assembly would:

(a) Take note of the report of the Secretary General on emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan (A/49/688) and endorse the observations and recommendations set out therein;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to authorize the special mission established under General Assembly resolution 48/208 to continue its efforts to facilitate national rapprochement and reconstruction in Afghanistan, in particular by promoting the earliest possible establishment of a fully representative and broad-based Authoritative Council with authority:

(i) To negotiate and oversee an immediate and durable cease-fire;

- (ii) To create and control a national security force to provide for security throughout the country and oversee the collection and safeguarding of all heavy weapons in the country;
- (iii) To form an acceptable transitional government, which could, inter alia, control the national security force, until conditions for free and fair elections are established throughout the country, possibly utilizing traditional decision-making structures, such as a grand assembly, to help establish those conditions.

B. Relationship of the proposed requests to the medium-term plan and the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

2. The requests contained in the draft resolution relate to programme 1 (Good offices, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping, research and the collection and analysis of information) of major programme I (Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and to sections 3 (Political affairs) and 4 (Peace-keeping operations and special missions) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. They also relate to programme 37 (Emergency humanitarian assistance) of major programme VII (Human rights, fundamental freedoms and humanitarian affairs).

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/49/L.45, the Secretary-General would endeavour to promote the earliest possible establishment of an Authoritative Council, composed of representatives of the warring factions, neutral parties and independent "personalities". It is anticipated that the Council would negotiate and oversee an immediate and durable cease-fire; create and control a national security force to provide for security throughout the country and oversee the collection and safeguarding of all heavy weapons in the country; and form an acceptable transitional government, which could, inter alia, control the national security force, until conditions for free and fair elections are established throughout the country, possibly utilizing traditional decision-making structures, such as a grand assembly, to help establish those conditions. In this context, as requested in the draft resolution, the special mission established under General Assembly resolution 48/208 would continue its efforts to facilitate national rapprochement and reconstruction in Afghanistan, in particular by promoting the establishment of a representative Authoritative Council.

4. As indicated in the Secretary-General's report, it would be necessary to establish a political presence of the United Nations in Afghanistan to support the special mission and maintain continuity of contact between the United Nations and the various leaders inside the country. Accordingly, the Secretary-General is proposing the establishment of a small office to support the special mission composed of a Director, a Political Affairs Officer, two military advisers and the necessary support staff. Initially, that office would be

established at Jalalabad but it would move to Kabul as soon as conditions there permitted. The political functions of the Office of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Pakistan (OSGAP), currently located at Islamabad, would be transferred to the Office at Jalalabad/Kabul, whose members would travel, as necessary, to Pakistan and other neighbouring countries to consult with Afghan leaders resident in those areas. The United Nations humanitarian effort in Afghanistan would continue to be directed by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan (UNOCHA), which is voluntarily funded. It is anticipated that UNOCHA will return to Afghanistan as soon as possible.

D. Additional requirements for 1994-1995 at full cost

Special mission established under General Assembly resolution 48/208

5. The cost of the special mission for the 12-month period of 1995 is estimated at \$601,100. These costs assume that the Special Envoy would carry out his functions for a total duration of seven and a half months during 1995, for which the necessary support staff would also be required.

United States
dollars

General temporary assistance

201 700

General temporary assistance for the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Afghanistan and the Head of the special mission at the Under-Secretary-General level, two security officers to provide security coverage to the Special Envoy resulting from threats by certain extremists, and one General Service support staff.

Staff travel and subsistence allowance

191 200

The requirements relate to travel and subsistence allowance for travel to Pakistan, Kabul and New York in respect of the head of the special mission and his support staff, including travel within the region of advisers to the Head of mission; and the travel and subsistence of staff in the Department of Political Affairs to Afghanistan, who would be made available to the special mission during the consultation process.

Travel of representatives

14 200

Provisions have been made for the travel of important leaders to consultation meetings in Afghanistan, which could be instrumental in the forming of the future government.

United States
dollarsOperating costsRental of aircraft

134 800

In view of the consultations which need to be undertaken, provision has been made for the rental of a Beechcraft B-200 aircraft for travel within the country. The estimate is based on a 22 hour per month usage at an hourly rate of \$800 for six months (\$105,600), plus fuel and handling fees (\$29,200).

Rental and maintenance of vehicles

6 500

The estimates under this heading include vehicle insurance and fuel costs.

Commercial communication

49 400

It is estimated that \$49,400 would be required for communications between the mission area and Headquarters and communications within the country. These provisions include the rental of leased circuits, long-distance telephone, cables, pouches and the acquisition of related communications equipment.

Supplies and materials

1 500

The estimates of \$1,500 include stationery and supplies and subscriptions.

Miscellaneous services

1 800

Provision is made for the rental of meeting halls required for consultations and meetings.

601 100
Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan

6. The Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan (OSGA) would consist of a Director, a Political Affairs Officer and two military advisers and the necessary support staff. It would have a total of 17 posts (one D-2, one P-5, two General Service (Other level), three Field Service, nine Local level and one security officer), as well as two military advisers. Since the political functions of OSGAP would be transferred to OSGA, the staff of OSGAP, for which 14 posts (one P-5, two General Service (Other level), four Field Service and seven Local level) and one military adviser were authorized in 1994, would be transferred to the new Office, as would all equipment and vehicles currently used by OSGAP. It is further estimated that the transfer of the Office from

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Islamabad to Jalalabad could be accommodated from the total resources appropriated in 1994 for OSGAP. The cost for the operation of OSGA in 1995 is estimated at \$1,235,000, consisting of \$1,052,000 for personnel and \$183,000 for operating costs.

7. Under personnel costs, the estimates, in thousands of United States dollars, are broken down as follows:

OSGAP personnel	Cost	Additional for OSGA	Cost	Total strength OSGA	Cost
1 P-5	125.3	1 D-2	147.0	2 Professional	272.3
2 General Service (Other)	103.0	-	-	2 General Service	103.0
4 Field Service	381.6	(1 Field Service)	(95.4)	3 Field Service	286.2
7 Local level	90.3	2 Local level	25.8	9 Local level	116.1
-	-	1 security officer	55.5	1 security officer	55.5
1 military adviser	37.7	1 military adviser (Travel and subsistence allowance)	37.7	2 military advisers	75.4
Total	<u>737.9</u>		<u>170.6</u>		<u>908.5</u>

Mission subsistence allowance in respect of the international staff is estimated at \$117,500. In addition, consultancy services for an international translator and interpreter (estimated at \$18,000) and staff travel within the mission area (estimated at \$8,000) would be required.

8. The operating costs of OSGA, estimated at \$183,000, are broken down as follows:

United States
dollarsRental of aircraft

35 000

The estimate relates to the share of OSGA for the use of the aircraft rented by UNOCHA, when the special mission is not in Afghanistan.

Rental and maintenance of premises

21 000

Provision under this heading includes rental of premises for six months at Jalalabad and six months at Kabul (at \$800 and \$1,000 per month respectively), maintenance of premises (\$1,400) and utilities (\$10,000)

Maintenance of vehicles and equipment

13 000

Provision is made for the continued maintenance of vehicles, photocopying machines and electronic data-processing equipment transferred from OSGAP.

Communications

43 000

Under communications, the provision relates to the rental of satellite leased lines and the related maintenance cost of equipment (\$13,000) and the cost of cables, telephone and pouches (\$30,000)

Miscellaneous services and supplies

45 500

Provision under this heading relates to the cost of accommodation in Kabul of a former president and his entourage (\$29,200); miscellaneous supplies, including sanitation and cleaning materials (\$7,300); freight and related charges (\$8,000) and hospitality (\$1,000).

Petrol, oil and lubricants

25 500

Provision is made for fuel for vehicles, generators and heating

Total operating costs

183 000
E. Potential for absorptionSpecial mission established under General Assembly resolution 48/280

9. As was indicated to the General Assembly when it adopted resolution 48/208, the costs related to the special mission dispatched pursuant to that resolution

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in 1994 were met within resources appropriated under section 3 (Political affairs) of the programme budget for 1994-1995. As the scope and duration of the special mission exceeded initial expectations, the absorption of related costs involved redeployment of resources originally appropriated under section 3 for activities related to apartheid. As indicated in his report on revised estimates under sections 3A, 3B, 3C, 4, 8, 15, 24 and 28 and income section 1 (A/C.5/49/44), the Secretary-General has proposed to redeploy \$601,100 from resources originally appropriated for activities related to apartheid under section 3 for the purpose of extending the special mission through 1995.

10. Accordingly, it is not anticipated that additional appropriations will be required in respect of the extension of the special mission through 1995 should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution.

Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan

11. It is not anticipated that the continuation in 1995 by the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan of political activities carried out in 1994 by the Office of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Pakistan can be absorbed within resources appropriated under section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

F. Indication of additional requirements

12. It is estimated that should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, additional appropriations of \$1,235,000 would be required under section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 for the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan. Furthermore, an additional appropriation of \$182,500 would be required under section 28 (Staff assessment), offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

G. Contingency fund

13. In paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, which sets out the budget process, it is provided, inter alia, that:

"the revised estimates arising from the impact of extraordinary expenses, including those relating to the maintenance of peace and security, as well as fluctuations in rates of exchange and inflation, shall not be covered by the contingency fund and shall continue to be treated in accordance with established procedures and under the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations and Rules".

14. The Secretary-General is of the view that the activities of the special mission and the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan are of an extraordinary nature related to the maintenance of peace and security and should thus be dealt with outside the procedures related to the contingency fund, as provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213.

H. Action required of the General Assembly

15. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/49/L.45, an additional appropriation of \$1,235,000 would be required under section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. Furthermore, an amount of \$182,500 would be required under section 28 (Staff assessment), to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).
